each ration card holder in urban and rural areas are decided by the State Governments/UT Administrations.

(b) to (d). As regards distribution of sugar and kerosene to the urban and rural areas, it depends upon the local circumstances as appreciated by the State Governments and priorities fixed by them.

It is for the State Governments/UT Administrations to remove any disparity in the distribution of the PDS commodities between rural and urban areas.

[English]

Telephone Tower in West Bengal

*134. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of West Bengal for installation of Telephone Towers in the State during 1993, 1994 and 1995; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No such request for telephone tower has come to notice.

(b) Does not arise, Sir.

Professional Personnels in the Country

*135. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government maintains an updated data about various categories of scientific, technical and professional personnel in the country;

(b) if so, the available manpower in these categories as on March 31, 1996;

(c) the number of scientific, technical and professional personnel who have migrated from India during the last three years; and

(d) the level of technical skill of these migrants?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Scientific, Technical and Professional Personnel in the country would include doctors, engineers, architects, scientists, technologists, layers, management and communication experts. According to the data maintained by the National Technical Manpower Information System (NTMIS) the stock of Degree Holders in Engineering at the beginning of 1996 would be around 7 lakh and that of Diploma Holders around 11 lakh. According to the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR) publication on Manpower Profile, it is estimated that there are 3,12,000 medical graduates, 15,670 dentists and 2,21,900 nursing personnel. As per information furnished by IAMR, number of Post-graduates in Science at the beginning of 1996 would be around 6.67 lakh.

(c) and (d). No reliable information regarding the number of Scientific, Technical and Professional Personnel migrated from India during the last three years is available.

Development of New Tourist Spots

*136. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of new tourist spots developed and of infrastrucural facilities improved during the last three years to attract the international tourist traffic; and

(b) the names of the countries from which tourists are attracted to visit India in large numbers?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) Indentification and development of tourist spots is a continous process and is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Department of Tourism, Government of India extends, financial assistance to State/Union Territoty Governments on the basis of specific project proposals received based on their merits, inter se priority and availability of funds. During the last three years, the Buddhist tourist circuit in UP and Bihar have been developed.

(b) The top ten countries, excluding Bangladesh, from which foreign tourists come to visit India are U.K. U.S.A., Sri Lanka, Germany, France, Japan, Canada, Italy, Malayasia and Singapore.

Pending Programmes

*137. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the royalty programmes are much cheaper than the comissioned programmes;

(b) the number of of programmes pending for approval in Doordarshan Kendras presently, category-wise;

(c) the reasons for delay in each case;

(d) whether the Government have received complaints regarding irregularities in selecting the programmes for telecast resulting in dumping of very good serials and telefilms there; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Prices/costs of royalty programmes and commissioned programmes are not comparable. Whereas in the case of former Doordarshan pays for

only one time or for a limited telecast rights of a programme, all the rights of commissioned programmes are owned by Doordarshan permanently. Moreover, Doordarshan commissions programmes on subjects which require special treatment and/or are normally not produced by private producers.

(b) Receipt of proposals and selection is an ongoing activity depending on the programme requirements of Doordarshan from time to time. As per information collected from the Kendras, details of proposals Kendra-wise awaiting approval are annexed.

(c) Sometimes there are delays in according approval to commissioned programmes due to paucity of funds and non-availability of necessary preview equipments at Kendras.

(d) and (e). Such somplaints are received by various Kendras and the Directorate General, Doordarshan, from time to time. Compalaints of a serious nature indicating gross procedural irregularities are inquired into departmentally and matter referred to the Central Bureau of Investigation, whenever warranted. These actions are taken to ensure that programmes are selected on merit.

STATEMENT

Number of Programmes

S.No.	Kendra	Commissioned	Royalty
1.	Delhi	-	60
2.	Bangalore	3	9
3.	Bombay	7	-
4.	Madras	-	9
5.	Bhopal	1	-
6.	Guwahati	-	-
7.	Bhubaneshwar	353	64
8.	Hyderabad	-	-
9.	Thiruvananthapuram	-	35
10.	Jalandhar	-	-
11.	Calcutta	-	26
12.	Patna	-	-
13.	Srinagar	-	-
14.	Ahmedabad	-	-
15.	Lucknow	42	-
16.	Jaipur	-	30
	Total	406	233

ITDC Hotels

*138. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any target has been fixed for construction, renovation and upgradation of the ITDC hotels during the next three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b). The Plan proposals of ITDC for the year 1996-97 include the following :

(i) Construction of a 100 room, 5-Star hotel at Chandigarh.

(ii) Reconstruction and conversion of the existing Lodhi hotel into a 310 room, 5 Star hotel.

Renovation/upgradation of hotels is a continuous process and schemes are drawn up and implemented every year.

[Translation]

Workers in Management

*139. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for participation of workers in management for better functioning of Public Undertaking; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). A scheme for Employees' Participation in Management is operating since 1983 in all Central Public Sector Undertakings except those undertakings which are specifically exempted from the operation of the Scheme. All Departmentally run undertakings of the Central Government are also excluded from the Scheme.

The Scheme envisages constitution of bipartite forums at the shop and plant levels. In enterprises considered suitable, it also provides for board level participation. The Scheme provides for bipartite consideration of certain work-related issues concerning production, quality, targets, technological improvement, safety, welfare measures, environmental issues, absenteeism, financial performance of the enterprise etc.

[English]

Supply of Pure Food Items

*140. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that poor quality food items such as wheat, rice and sugar are being supplied to the consumers through fair price shops; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide good quality wheat, rice and sugar the consumers through fair price shops and to improve the Public Distribution System?